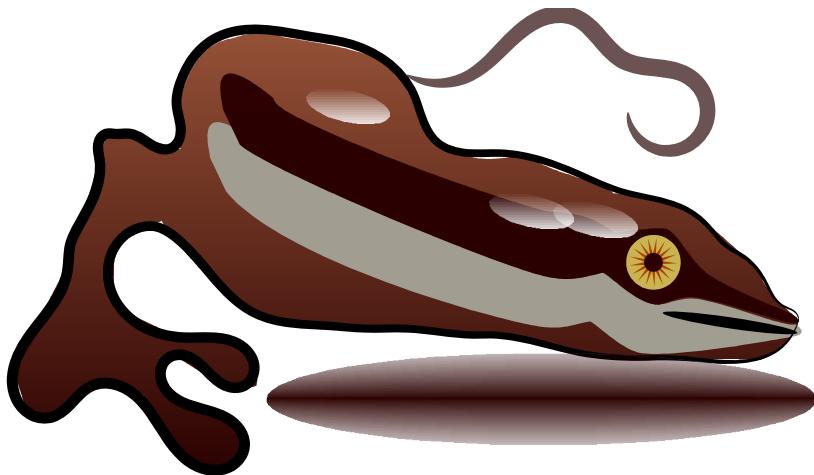


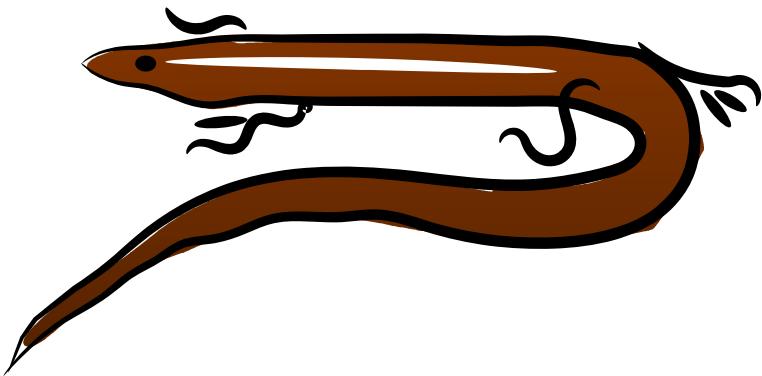
# Dwarf Skink

&

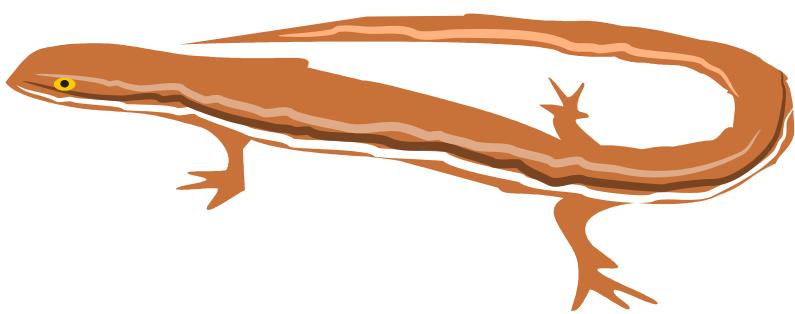
# Leaning Tree



by Hamish Darby



Once upon a time,  
there was a dwarf  
skink.



Her name was Ava.

She lived with her  
sister Matilda.



Every day, they went to  
the leaning tree to  
catch flies.

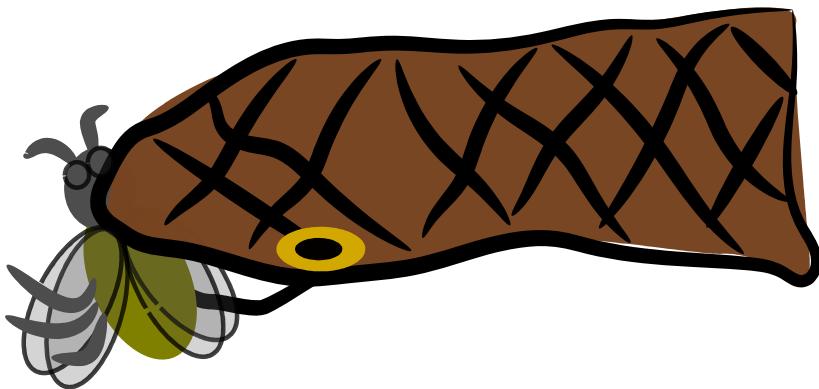


The two lizards hung  
from a branch.

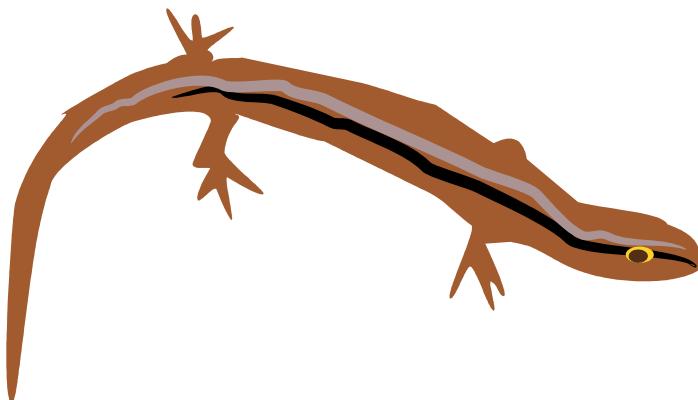


They waited for a fly to  
go underneath.

Then they let go.  
It is hard to catch flies.



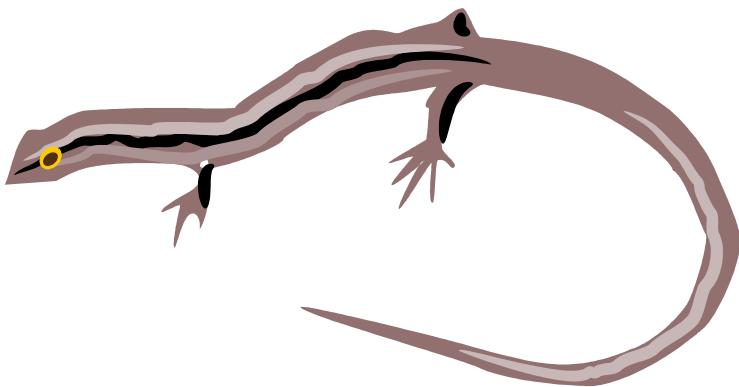
One day, Ava said,  
“Today I am going to  
learn something.”



“Tree”, she called out,  
“teach me something.”

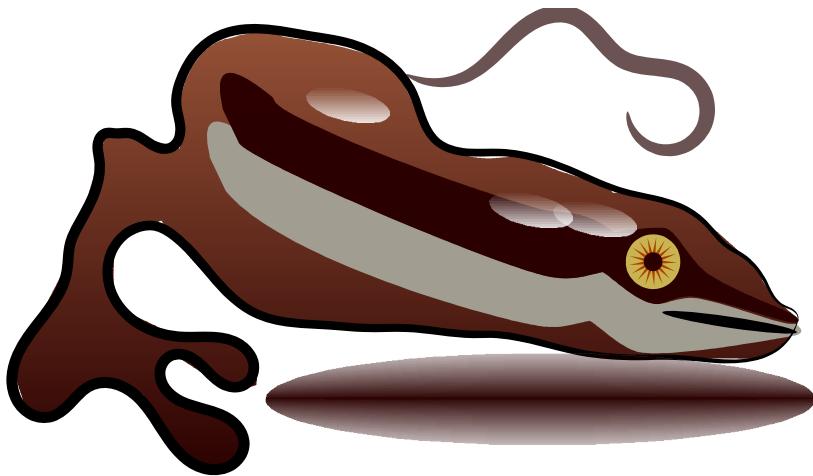


“I am just a leaning  
tree”, said the tree,  
“what can I teach a  
Lizard?”



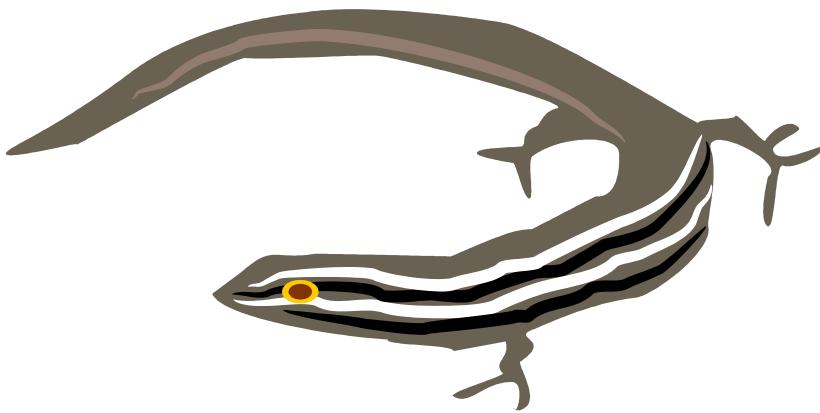
Matilda Giggled. She  
was keeping still, waiting  
for the fly.

“Teach me to lean”,  
said Ava.



“Bend to one side”, said  
the tree. Ava leaned to  
one side.

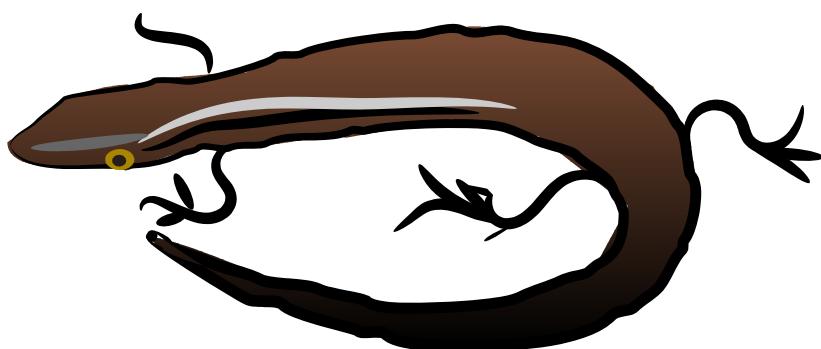
Just then, a fly  
appeared.



Ava straightened her  
tail.

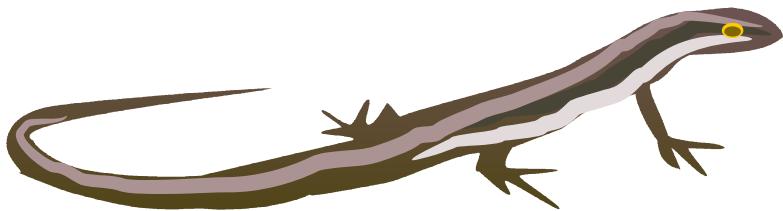
She lurched forward.

Ava lurched exactly  
where the fly was.  
She caught the fly in  
her mouth.



Both lizards fell to the  
ground laughing.





Ava had learned a  
great lesson.

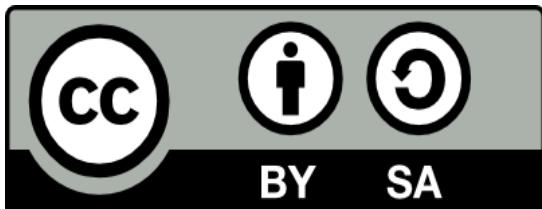
Matilda said, “Please  
teach me how to lean  
and lurch.”

“Dwarf skink & leaning tree” by  
Hamish Darby 2012

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Dedicated to *Menetia Greyii* and  
hard working staff and parents of  
the Steiner School in Geraldton,  
Western Australia.